

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION
July 1, 2010; 12:00-2:00 pm
BHRC, 850 E. Foothill Blvd. - Auditorium
Rialto, CA 92376

Commissioners Present:

Chris Massa, Jane Mercer, Roberto Casas, Monica Wilson, Jane Godager, Veatrice Jews and Michael Hill and Talli Simmons on behalf of Supervisor Neil Derry.

Absent:

David Ford, Gabriel Gonzales, May Farr, Monica Alonso, Bill Swift, Jane Godager, Tom Rivera, Tanya Perry

Guests:

Allan Rawland Director; Debi Pasco Clerk of the Mental Health Commission; Dan Flores, Office of Supervisor Josie Gonzales; Michael Townsend, Office of Congressman Joe Baca; Nathan Trujillo, Kristian Wolfe, Victor Community Support Services; Mary Mim Mack, Hope; Faith Ikeda, Denise Byrd, Michael Moreno, Pathways to Recovery; Rodolfo Pinon, Casa De San Bernardino; Michael Oliver, Dennis Terrones, Michael Knight, Dorean Glenn, Jason Hill, André Bossieux, Bob Sudol, Megan Johnson, Veronica Kelley, Michael Schertell, Kristen Martinez, Mariann Ruffolo, Tim Hougen, Laretta Ross, Ron Smith, Marilyn Ashton, Douglas Fazekas, Barbara Ferri, Doris Truner, Rebecca Gehlke-Baez, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Teri Self, Joel Erickson, Maria Coronado, Jatin Dalal MD, Arelis John Martinez, Lynn Neuenswander, and Deborah Lerma, DBH.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Vice Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Self introductions followed.

Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Mental Health Commission announced that Dr. Monica Wilson was appointed to the Mental Health Commission, Fourth District by Supervisor Gary C. Ovitt at the June 15th Board of Supervisor meeting.

Today's Public Session agenda was approved. Due to lack of a quorum, the approval of the June 3rd Public Session minutes were deferred until the next Public Session.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Veronica Kelley, Cultural Competency Officer presented the July Cultural Competence Award of Excellence to Nathan Trujillo, Peer and Family Advocate, for the Victor Community Support Services Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Program in Victorville.

Nathan Trujillo is our dedicated TAY Peer and Family Advocate. He is a strong advocate for our TAY, working diligently to assure GLBT competency at our site. Nathan provides outreach and engagement to our TAY in a way that is accepting and provides a safe outlet for addressing needs. Nathan has established openness at our TAY Center for youth to come forward with their orientation provides a caring arena to seek out support and has established strong linkages in our community.

- Worked with TAY since January 2010, with VCSS for 2 years
- Support the TAY Youth in reaching goals; act as advocate to help them help themselves
- Assists with finding community resources for LGBTQ
- Recently started a support group for the TAY

Congratulations Nathan!

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Allan introduced Daniel Flores, Field Representative, for Supervisor Josie Gonzales. Mr. Flores stated that the Supervisor has appointed him to serve as liaison between her and the members of the Commission as she believes their expertise and input are invaluable in providing mental health services in our county.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Vice Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel conveyed a message from Chairman David Ford. Due to personal reasons Commissioner Ford has been unable to perform his duties and has decided to step down as Chair, in addition he would like to request a leave of absence until the fall. According to the Mental Health Commission Bylaws, as set forth in Article VI, Section II, Paragraph 2.2(a), "The Vice Chairperson shall assume the duties of the Chairperson when that officer vacates the position, is absent or incapacitated". Director Rawland will follow-up with Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt's office on the request for a leave of absence.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Second District:

As a member of the CA Mental Health Planning Council, Commissioner Monica Wilson will represent San Bernardino County at quarterly meetings in Sacramento. She is very proud of the MHSA progression that San Bernardino County has maintained.

Third District:

Commissioner Chris Massa attended the CA Local Mental Health Boards and Commissions (CALMHB/C) training in Ontario on June 5th. Significant topics were covered and shared with all attendees.

Fourth District:

Commissioner Jane Mercer also attended the CALMHB/C training. At the June 23rd Second and Fourth District Advisory Committee held at West End Family Counseling, there was significant linkage with other mental health agencies in attendance.

Fifth District:

Commissioner Susan McGee-Stehsel thanked DBH for hosting the first psych social center health fair, sponsored by Cal State nursing students at TEAM House on June 8th. The students were especially happy to follow the recovery, wellness and resiliency model by providing education. The health fair was a collaborate effort involving Mariann Ruffolo, Training Manager, and Bob Sudol, Clubhouse Supervisor, and she hopes to have many more such events.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Rawland welcomed all to the 1st day of a new fiscal year. It is important to know that the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) is in a good position to meet all the fiscal demands.

He welcomed Dr. Wilson as a member, stating this is the first time we've had a full Commission since he his arrival in 2005.

The DBH State of the Department will be held on July 26th.

Director Rawland announced that we were able to purchase new audio/visual equipment for the Auditorium. He was impressed that you could see the images on the screen clearly with the lights on. Jason Hill, Information Technology Analyst provided a brief update of the new equipment.

Commissioner Veatrice Jews was attending the funeral of the 6 year old boy who lost his life at a fast food restaurant in San Bernardino. DBH Community Crisis Response Team has been providing services to the family/community due to this tragic event.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Update

Members of the Commission received a copy of the MHSA Fifth Anniversary Report. Director Rawland acknowledged Lynn Neuenswander and staff for the level of sophistication of the report. San Bernardino County (SBC) has served 72,000 people through the implementation of MHSA.

FY 2009-2010 State and County Budget

The CA Section 1115 Waiver is CA's bridge to healthcare reform as we move away from Medi-Cal/Medicaid. Debi will email the June 2010 document. Page 2 outlines the goals of the waiver which is a major piece of policy.

Unresolved issues at the Federal level: Federal participation, (FFP or FMAP) was increased to 61.59% until 12/30/10. It was proposed to extend until 6/30/11; extension uncertain at this time.

State level: as of today we are operating without a budget which impacts cash flow. We will monitor closely. The Legislature and Senate rejected the Governor's proposal to raise taxes.

County: The Board of Supervisors received a budget presentation by Greg Devereaux, County Administrative Officer on June 28th. Mr. Devereaux was able to mitigate a \$90 million shortfall for FY 10-11. He anticipates an additional \$50 million for FY 11-12. DBH addressed and submitted a balanced budget by a reduction of 100 unfilled positions, maintaining 75% Medi-Cal target, reducing costs, etc. Director Rawland is proud of the work done by county staff and contract providers. County budget is posted on county website. He will have a more comprehensive report at the September Public Session.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: The Mentally Ill Parolee

Allan introduced Dr. Ralph Ortiz, Deputy Director, Adult System of Care/Forensics. On January 25, 2010, a new law went into effect authorizing the placement of parolees onto Non-Revocable Parole (NRP) status, which has eligibility criteria. Parolees tend to return to their area of origin and most resume same behavior. SBC is 2nd in the state for prison population and as a county we are obligated to provide assessment. As the CA Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR) contact, Dr. Ortiz has received only 5 referrals so far for assessment.

A Criminal Justice Committee, involving many other SBC departments/agencies and a representative for CDCR, are addressing the increase in services, problems and working towards implementing a data resource base. Faith-based organizations are very concerned and have stepped up to provide services. Issues are

Commissioner Jane Mercer has had several NRPs present at her homeless facility in Ontario. Allan stated that this has nothing to do with need but money

Upcoming Special Presentations include:

- **August 5, 2010: NO MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION: Members of the Mental Health Commission will participate in a training workshop at the BHRC Auditorium from 10am-4pm**
- September 2, 2010: Cultural Competence Plan by Veronica Kelley
- October 7, 2010: African American Health Institute of San Bernardino County by Dr. V. Dianne Woods, CEO, President
- November 4, 2010: Jail Mental Health Services by Teri Self, Program Manager II, Forensic Services
- **December 2, 2010: NO MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION: Annual Mental Health Commission Holiday Tea and Awards Ceremony at the BHRC Auditorium from 2-4pm.**

DEFERRED BUSINESS: ACTION ITEMS

- The members of the Mental Health Commission reviewed and approved the Draft Behavioral Health Commission Bylaws prior to submission to County Counsel and subsequent approval by the Board of Supervisors with changes that were discussed during the Executive Session.

OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

No outside agency reports were provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Tanya Perry
Acting Chairperson

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Mental Health Commission